A method of forming assay sites comprising immobilised reagents in a flow channel using the microflow system of claim 1, said method comprising the steps of preparing selected surfaces of the assay sites for immbolisation of selected reagents. dispensing a selected reagent proximate to a corresponding selected assay site, and generating a field proximate to the selected site whereby the reagent is attracted towards and brought into contact with the surface of the selected assay site by the field generated and is immobilized upon contact with the surface.

Remarks

Applicant has amended claims 34 to 39 to make them dependent upon claim 1. Applicant notes the Examiner's request for restriction of the examination to one of three separate groups. Applicant respectfully elect group 1 comprising claims 1 through 33 drawn to a Microflow system classified in class 422, subclass 50, with traverse. The basis for applicant's traversal is that the applicant does not necessary wish to be bound by the Examiner's logic/relational in posing the restriction requirement. Applicant also notes that claims 34 through 39 have been made dependent upon claims 1 through 33. Accordingly, applicant believes that claims 34 through 39 can now be grouped with the claims of group 1.

CONCLUSION

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT, GOULD, SMITH, EDELL, WELTER & Schmidt, P. A. P. O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 371-5265

Date: 11/27/2000

John J. Gresens

Reg. No. 33,112